



**BELCHERTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 26, 2013**

LOCATION: Swift River Elementary School Library
TIME: 7:00 pm

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Dr. Linda Tsoumas, Chair (present); Mr. Eric Weiss, Vice Chair (present); Ms. Clare Popowich, Secretary (present); Ms. Beverly Phaneuf, Member (present); Mr. Richard Fritsch, Member (present)

ADMINISTRATION: Dr. Judith Houle, Superintendent of Schools

BHS STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES:

VISITORS: Lily Wallace, BHS Student Rep., Gena Marziaratti, Daily Hampshire Gazette, Jim Russell, Republican

MINUTES

- I. Call to order
Dr. Tsoumas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. Special awards and presentations
None
- III. Update from BHS Student Advisory Council representatives
Student representative Lily Wallace updated the committee on upcoming student events taking place at the high school.
- IV. Public comment regarding items on the agenda
None
- V. Approval of minutes
 - A. February 12, 2013
MOTION: Mr. Fritsch moved to approve the Minutes of February 12, 2013, Regular Session School Committee meeting. Ms. Popowich seconded the motion.
VOTE: 3-0-2
- VI. Reports and recommendations of the Superintendent
 - A. Accounts Payable Warrant
Dr. Houle presented school committee members with an Accounts Payable Warrant for their signature.
 - B. Out-of-state field trip request: BHS Boys' Baseball Team to East Granby, CT – scrimmage game, March 30, 2013
Dr. Houle reviewed an out-of-state field trip request for the BHS Boys Baseball team to go to East Granby High School in East Granby, CT for a scrimmage on March 30, 2013.
MOTION: Mr. Weiss moved to approve the BHS Boys Baseball team out-of-state field trip request as presented. Mrs. Phaneuf seconded the motion.
VOTE: 5-0-0

VII. Unfinished business

A. Superintendent's evaluation: mid-cycle formative assessment

Dr. Houle conducted a presentation to the School Committee highlighting her agreed upon four goals in the areas of professional practice, student learning and district improvement. Dr. Houle discussed pieces of evidence showing what she had accomplished so far this year relative to each specific goal.

At the end of the presentation, Dr. Tsoumas polled the Committee regarding if they felt the Superintendent was either "On Target," "Off Target" or had "Not Started" on each specific goal. It was the Committee's consensus that the Superintendent was "On Target" on each of her four goals. Dr. Tsoumas recapped the evidence and the Committee's assessment on the Superintendent's mid-cycle formative assessment form and signed the document.

VIII. New business

None

IX. Reports of subcommittees/representative to Collaborative for Educational Services

A. Collaborative for Educational Services (Ms. Phaneuf)

None

B. Curriculum & Instruction (Ms. Phaneuf/Ms. Popowich)

None

C. Healthy & Safer Schools Advisory Committee (Ms. Popowich/Ms. Phaneuf)

Ms. Popowich reported that the March meeting date has not yet been scheduled.

D. Jessica's Boundless Playground Committee (Mr. Weiss)

Mr. Weiss reported that there is an article in this week's Sentinel that very accurately describes the progress being made on the Jessica's Boundless Playground project. He added that at the next meeting on March 13th, the final playground design will be presented. Mr. Weiss also reported on the fundraising for the project and noted that a Amherst Rotary Community Grant application has been submitted by Patti Thornton in the amount of \$25,000.

E. Personnel & Policy (Ms. Popowich/Dr. Tsoumas)

Dr. Houle conferred with members of the Personnel & Policy Subcommittee regarding scheduling a meeting to discuss revising the Job Description of the Network Support Specialist. There was consensus to schedule a meeting on March 7, 2013 at 7 p.m.

F. Property & Transportation (Mr. Weiss/Mr. Fritsch)

Dr. Houle reported that she recently did a walk through with two vendors looking at our security surveillance systems in all buildings. She noted that all our buildings have wholly inadequate systems in place and in the future we will be looking to do upgrades in this area.

G. Technology Advisory Committee (Mr. Fritsch)

Mr. Fritsch reported that the next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2013.

X. Correspondence

A. Agenda: February 26, 2013

B. Minutes: February 12, 2013

C. Out-of-State Field Trip Form: BHS baseball team to East Granby, CT, March 30, 2013

D. Superintendent's Mid-Cycle Formative Assessment form

E. Superintendent's evidence related to agreed-upon goals

- XI. Vote to enter into Executive Session under M.G.L., c. 30A, §21, Part (3), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with Unit A, Teachers, Unit B, Secretaries, Unit C, Custodians, Unit D, Food Service Workers, and Unit E, Paraprofessionals as conducting said business in open session would have a detrimental effect on the School Committee's negotiating position. The Committee will not return to open session.

Dr. Tsoumas – Yes
 Eric Weiss – Yes
 Beverly Phaneuf – Yes
 Clare Popowich – Yes
 Richard Fritsch - Yes

The Committee entered into Executive Session at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Joanne Gosselin
 Substitute Non-Confidential Recording Secretary to the School Committee

School Committee members' signature:

Linda Tsoumas, Linda Tsoumas, Chair

Eric Weiss, Eric Weiss, Vice Chair

Clare Popowich, Clare Popowich, Secretary

Beverly Phaneuf, Beverly Phaneuf, Member

Richard Fritsch, Richard Fritsch, Member

The mission of the Belchertown Public Schools is to ensure that every student meets with success every day. To that end, we pledge to ensure that we have rigorous, standards-based curriculum; instruction designed to meet the needs of diverse learners in every classroom; and access to the global learning community via state-of-the-art technology in schools that are communities of respect and civility for all.

2011-2015 Strategic Plan Goals (adopted by the Belchertown School Committee, 3/1/11):

- Goal #1: To have guaranteed (standards-based and implemented by all), viable (doable and accessible to every student), seamless K-12 curriculum in every content area.
- Goal #2: To have rigorous (standards-based), relevant (grounded in 21st Century skills), differentiated instructional practices with the ability to access the global learning community via technology available to every learner.
- Goal #3: To implement a plan to ensure that our students understand the importance of acceptance, tolerance, and respect supported by all adults in the community.

The Belchertown School Committee conducts its business in open session pursuant to Chapter 30A, Section 21 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The public is welcome to comment only on items on the agenda for this meeting as noted above. If you wish to address the School Committee regarding an item not on the agenda for this meeting, please contact Dr. Judith Houle, Superintendent of Schools, at 413.323.0423 or via email at jhoule@belchertown.org to determine the best way to address your concerns.